



**CITY OF LODI
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

AGENDA TITLE: Adopt a resolution awarding the contract for tree trimming (Power Line Clearing) to Trees, Inc. of Houston, Texas (\$350,000) (EUD)

MEETING DATE: June 21, 2006

PREPARED BY: Electric Utility Director

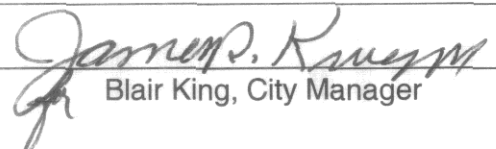
RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council adopt a resolution awarding a contract for power line tree trimming to Trees, Inc. of Houston, Texas at an evaluated cost of \$172.93 per hour.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Electric Utility Department (EUD) has utilized a tree trimming contractor for its line clearing requirements since November 1988. The current contract is due to expire on June 30, 2006. The proposed tree trimming program covers the period of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007 with the option for up to two additional one-year extensions, at the City's sole discretion, covering fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09. The contract would provide the City with a three-person Backyard Crew and a two-person Street Crew, including vehicles, equipment and other expenses for two crews. This is a reduction of one Backyard Crew from current contracting levels. The proposed level of activity, however, is believed to be sufficient to maintain the 130+ circuit miles of overhead transmission and distribution lines clear of growth on a three-year cycle. The possible need to add another Backyard Crew will be evaluated prior to any annual extension.

To maintain continuity of the power line clearing program, a new contract was advertised and opened. Bid proposals were received from three contractors on May 24, 2006 with the following results.

Bidder	Backyard Crew	Street Crew	Combined Hourly
Trees, Inc. Houston, TX	\$95.89 per hour	\$77.04 per hour	\$172.93 per hour
Asplundh Tree Expert Co. Stockton, CA	\$103.69 per hour	\$82.95 per hour	\$186.64 per hour
West Coast Arborists, Inc. Anaheim, CA	\$198 per hour	\$132 per hour	\$330 per hour

Staff recommends awarding the tree trimming contract to Tree's Inc. of Houston, Texas -- EUD's existing tree trimming contractor. Trees, Inc submitted the lowest bid proposal for tree trimming for FY 2006-07 with approximately 3.4% increase from last year's evaluated price of \$167.25 per hour. EUD's experience with Trees, Inc has been positive with a number of customer compliments and very few complaints. They coordinate their work effectively with EUD's Line Crews, Operations' personnel and customers while adhering to safety standards/procedures.

APPROVED: 
Blair King, City Manager

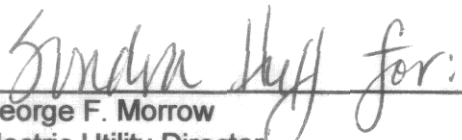
With the approval of the City Council, the tree trimming (Power Line Clearing) contract shall be awarded to Trees, Inc. of Houston, Texas.

FISCAL IMPACT: Decreased the number of tree trimming Crews from three to two with the projected cost of \$350,000 chargeable to EUD's Operating Budget. (The fiscal year 2005-06 tree clearance budget is \$548,201.)

FUNDING AVAILABLE: An amount of \$350,000 will be included in EUD's proposed budget for fiscal year 2006-07 under Account No. 160654 – Tree Trimming. Funding for contract extensions shall be addressed in future operating budgets.



Ruby Paiste, Interim Finance Director



George F. Morrow
Electric Utility Director

PREPARED BY: Demy Bucaneg, Jr., Sr. Power Engineer

GFM/DB/1st

cc: City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-121

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL
AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR TREE
TRIMMING (POWER LINE CLEARING)

WHEREAS, in answer to notice duly published in accordance with law and the order of this City Council, sealed bids were received and publicly opened on May 24, 2006, at 11:00 a.m. for Tree Trimming (Power Line Clearing), described in the specifications therefore approved by the City Council on April 19, 2006; and

WHEREAS, said bids have been compared, checked, and tabulated and a report thereof filed with the City Manager as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Backyard Crew</u>	<u>Street Crew</u>	<u>Evaluated Cost</u>
Trees, Inc. Houston, TX	\$95.89 per hour	\$77.04 per hour	\$172.93 per hour
Asplundh Tree Expert Co. Stockton, CA	\$103.69 per hour	\$82.95 per hour	\$186.64 per hour
West Coast Arborists, Inc. Anaheim, CA	\$198.00 per hour	\$132.00 per hour	\$330.00 per hour

WHEREAS, staff recommends awarding the tree trimming contract to the lowest bidder, Tree's Inc., of Houston, Texas, the City's existing tree trimming contractor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lodi City Council that the award of the bid for Tree Trimming (Power Line Clearing) be made to the low bidder, Trees Inc., of Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$350,000 for fiscal year 2006-07 (evaluated cost of \$172.93 per hour).

Dated: June 21, 2006

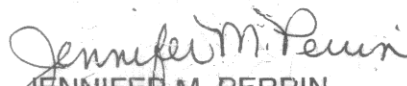
I hereby certify that Resolution No. 2006-121 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held June 21, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – Beckman, Hansen, Johnson, Mounce,
and Mayor Hitchcock

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None


JENNIFER M. PERRIN
Interim City Clerk